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THE

CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR World

FEBRUARY 1968

The Cover . . .

Two of the over 700 delegates to the National Conference on the Atom are pictured touring Chicago's world famous Museum of Science and Industry during the three-day gathering in which they explored the peaceful promise of the atom with top atomic scientists. Turn to Page 5 to learn their opinions about science and God.

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March Meetings . . .

14-17—Oregon Convention, Astoria

16—New Jersey Conference Sample Day, Pennington

22-23—Washington State Convention, Lynden

FINISHED?

This issue of THE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR WORLD has been especially planned to tell the story of the movement.

Is a movement formed to meet the needs of young people in the nineteenth century hopelessly out of date today? Has the passage of time curtailed the possibilities for Christian Endeavor? Have 87 years of glorious service "For Christ and the Church" exhausted its usefulness? Is Christian Endeavor finished?

This issue answers these questions with a resounding "No!" The Christian Endeavor movement is remarkably adaptable to the needs of today's youth. Where its principles and practices are properly applied, it makes an invaluable contribution to the leadership program of any church.

Finished? No, Christian Endeavor has a future even greater than the past. More than ever before, the church needs youth trained for Christian service — and Christian Endeavor is prepared and ready to offer this training for many years to come.

THE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR World

FEBRUARY 1968

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THAT THE WORLD MAY BELIEVE

By Rev. Christian A. Tirre

Executive Secretary of the International Society

Too often today's youth—the "now" generation — have been characterized as hippies and flower children, draft card burners, or those who crowd in for love-ins. These are just a small percentage of the youth population. However, the dynamic youth who don't make the headlines of the morning paper — and there are thousands and thousands of them across this continent — have found deep meaning to life through a vital faith in Jesus Christ. Their energies, zeal, and imagination are being directed into useful service for Christ and the Church. They are the kind of young people who gather week after week in Christian Endeavor societies to face their many problems through personal dialogue and group study of the Bible.

"That the World May Believe," the theme for Christian Endeavor Week 1968, sums up the task of Christian Endeavor around the world for the past 87 years. The theme not only speaks of what the ministry of Christian Endeavor has been, but it offers a challenge today for Christian Endeavor to continue to call youth to accept Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour and to provide opportunities for Christian growth and service.

The beginnings of Christian Endeavor did not come from some committee which spent hours of work developing an organization, but rather from a young pastor, Francis E. Clark of Portland, Maine, who was confronted with the "now" generation of his day. He did something with and for his youth that changed the Protestant Church in a way that had not been done since the formation of Sunday schools a century before by Robert Raikes.

It was the year 1881. Francis Clark found himself with thirty young people who had responded to the invitation to accept Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour during a series of church services. This pastor wanted to conserve the results of the experience

(Please turn to next page)

A challenge to Christian Endeavorers today

(Continued from Page 3)

these young people had and to reach other youth in the community. A young pastor's concern and prayers resulted in the development of the first Christian Endeavor society where these new disciples could be nurtured and trained to serve Christ and the Church as young people.

Mrs. Clark reviewed her husband's plans for this first youth group and expressed concern that the constitution which he drafted might be asking too much of the young people. Francis Clark felt impelled to go ahead and present the constitution he had prepared and to challenge the group of over forty youth, who attended the first meeting, to pledge themselves to fulfilling it. All who were present signed the constitution. The constitution became the forerunner of what was soon to develop into the Christian Endeavor pledge or covenant. "Trusting in the Lord Jesus Christ for strength, I promise Him that I will strive to do whatever He would have me do" — these opening phrases of the pledge have been the words of commitment for countless millions around the world through almost nine decades.

Shortly before the first Christian Endeavor society was organized, Mr. Clark attended a meeting of ministers. The discussion began with the perennial subject: "How can we win our young people to Christ?" One young minister took the floor and explained how he had solved the difficulty with the aid of the succulent oyster. He told how he gathered together first the boys and then the girls, giving them an oyster supper. He exclaimed, "Now they are on my side!"

Mr. Clark told of his disappointment with the remedy prescribed by his fellow minister and he said, "As the years have gone by, I have come to have less and less faith in any such cheap and easy way of winning young souls for the kingdom."

Francis Clark knew that the Christian life requires discipline and commitment and that youth want to give themselves to worthwhile tasks. He presented the Christian life in its reality and did not try to camouflage it. His faithfulness in presenting the Gospel to his young people was rewarded beyond any expectation he had envisioned. What was to be one church's care for its youth soon spread to other churches where similar societies were organized. The idea was adopted by many denominations and spread to other countries.

Christian Endeavor is facing an opportunity that may be even greater than that which Francis Clark faced in 1881. The 1970's will see the largest population of youth in the history of our nations — 100,000,000 youth are predicted in the United States alone. Christian Endeavor must win and train more youth today who will in turn win and train still others. The task is ever before us; may we accept it so that a complex and frightened world may believe that Jesus Christ is its only hope.

DEADLINE NEARS

Individuals, societies, or unions planning to enter the 1968 Christian Youth Witness Program must be sure to mail their entries by the February 15 deadline.

Individuals may enter an article or editorial, a talk, a poster, a cartoon, or a black and white photo. societies and unions will enter Christian witness projects. All entries must show how they were used to make a witness for Christ in the community or local area.

Teen-agers See God in Science

America's next generation of scientists have a firm belief in God.

A survey taken at the Ninth Annual National Youth Conference on the Atom indicates that 85 per cent of the most outstanding high school science students in the nation today go to church regularly and over half are active in church affairs. They see no conflict between their scientific endeavors and the teachings of their respective churches.

The conference, sponsored by some 70 of the nation's investor-owned utility companies, each year brings together some 700 of the nation's most promising high school science students and their teachers.

During interviews at the conference these outstanding students were asked if their religious studies aided them in their science interests. In a great many cases, the students subordinated science to religious belief. Here are some of their replies:

"You can't separate God and science," said Susan Madalinski, 16, of Chicago, "The wonders you discover are only being rediscovered. God's hand is behind your accomplishment." In the opinion of William Lemmer, 18, of Arkansas, "A true scientist cannot function without religion," while Robert G. Deichert, 17, of Minnesota felt that, "Science is merely the attempt to explain the manifestations of God's power."

In reply to the question of whether their science and religious training had anything in common, the students again indicated deeply-rooted religious convictions.

"Science explains what God has revealed," said Albert Bruecken, 17, of Iowa. In the same vein, Paul G. Remtamo, 17, of Michigan, said, "I am continually amazed at the perfect order of the universe and am thereby reminded of the nearness of God."

Robyn Ann Raede, 17, of Colorado, added, "Both are basically the study of God — one in a spiritual sense, the other in a physical sense."

"Each helps me to figure out who I am," said Kathy Hider, 17, of California. "Both require discipline and faith," added David S. Phillips, 15, of Ohio.

The conference, held each year in Chicago, is a reward for achievements in the field of science. Young men and women who attend qualified because of outstanding scholastic averages in the sciences and award-winning projects at science fairs.

IS THIS YOUR PROBLEM

By Rev. F. Rupert Gibson, superintendent of the Irish Mission of the Presbyterian Church, Belfast, Northern Ireland, and vice-president of the World's Christian Endeavor Union

I am a minister. I wonder if your problem is the same as mine. It concerns the young people under my care who belong to the church, and also the many who live within its area who have no church connection, but for whom the church must feel a responsibility. What is to be done to capture all these young people for Christ, to build them up in Christian character, and to lead them out into adventure for and with Christ?

The problem is made all the more urgent because of the present teen-age bulge as a result of the greatly increased birth rate of the years just after the war.

I have discussed this matter with ministers and church leaders at fraternals and meetings all over the British Isles. I have talked about it to Lord Mayors, provosts and civic officials, and I have found all these equally concerned about the young people in their particular area. have discovered that my problem i their problem also, that the guidanc of young people must be looked upo as a number one priority, for th teen-ager of today is the citizen o tomorrow, and the church needs th teen-ager of today if it is to exis tomorrow.

Very humbly I can claim to hav some knowledge of young people. have captained a university athleti team, been captain as well as cha lain of a Boy's Brigade Company, am a vice-president of the Girls' Li Brigade, and a vice-president of th Y.M.C.A. I have mixed with tedd boys and beatniks in clubs, cafes, an public houses in order to try to un derstand their problems. While di approving of much that they do, an while I am left absolutely cold wit the music of the juke box, of rock an roll, the jive and jungle beat, yet

have a very great sympathy with them and believe there is much latent good to be found in them.

While I have had experience of many types of youth work, all of which are doing a thoroughly good job, I should like to introduce you to what I believe is the finest youth organization of its kind in the world. It is also the oldest and the largest, having a membership of over three million. I refer to Christian Endeavor, founded in 1881 by Dr. Francis E. Clark. Today it is an international, interracial, interdenominational movement. Of course, Dr. Clark did not expect that to happen when he started it in his own church to meet the need of a group of his young people who had recently accepted Jesus Christ as their Lord and Master. He himself called it a humble experiment of a humble pastor to meet the needs of his own young people.

As a humble pastor myself, that appealed to me in my problem. Christian Endeavor must have what it takes to have grown into a huge worldwide movement and to have existed successfully for so many year. As pastor of very varied churches, one small rural one and several large ones in a big city, and now as an administrator in the headquarters of my denomination, I have found in Christian Endeavor just what the church requires to cope with the vital needs of youth. It has three "E's."

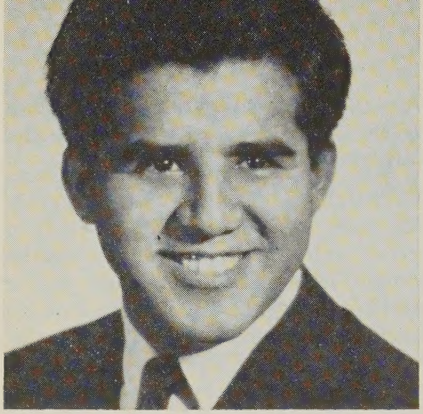
(1) Christian Endeavor is Educational. It is an ideal training ground for young people. With its program of the weekly devotional meeting, its monthly consecration meeting, its rallies and annual conventions, its study of topics, its training in committee work, and above all its covenant, it has served to train young people in knowledge of the Word of God and has led them out in service for Christ and the Church, in the home, in business, and in citizenship.

(2) It is Ecumenical. Though Christian Endeavor stresses loyalty to one's own denomination, it is a great unifying force, uniting young people in a common purpose under one Lord and Master. This worldwide organization which knows no barrier of race or class enables young people to meet, understand one another's differences, and yet work together for the common good of the Kingdom of God.

(3) It is Evangelical. Christian Endeavor aims to proclaim the evangel and to carry the Gospel not only to those inside the church but also to the unchurched. That is why it is no narow body, but has a missionary outlook and seeks to train young people to work for the advancement of the Kingdom.

Yes, Christian Endeavor was the answer to my problem concerning my young people. Looking back over my ministry I remember how when I wanted a Sunday school teacher I naturally went to the Christian Endeavor Society. With pride I now see that many of those who today are leaders of the various organizations, or active in the responsible task of guiding the affairs of the church as office bearers, received their early training in Christian Endeavor. Its splendid motto is, "For Christ and the Church."

I would not be without Christian Endeavor in any church of which I was the minister. As a parish minister, and now as a staff executive of the church, I do not hesitate to recommend the movement. It was the answer to my problem and it can be yours also. Why not make inquiries from the International Society concerning how it works — for it does work.



OSCAR H. DORANTES P., an Endeavorer from Merida, Yucatan, Mexico, gave this testimony during the Southern Regional Conference. A student at Southeastern Bible College in Birmingham, Oscar visited Christian Endeavor Headquarters in December.

First of all, I want to thank the Lord for the opportunity of being here. It is by His grace that I am here.

I appreciate the Alabama people; I want to thank you all. They asked me to give a testimony and I was thinking what should I say; you know I don't have any notes. I always write something, then I forget to read it. But I believe the Lord is working in us to make us praise Him.

I really came to know the Lord in a summer camp down in Yucatan. I remember that I was ready to go to school of law, but I knew that something was wrong in my life. The Lord was calling me and I knew perfectly, but I was running away from the Lord.

How can you run away from the Lord? Remember the book of Jonah

What Christian

LYNN McKNIGHT, a lifework recruit, is a junior at Johnson Bible College in Tennessee. She hails from Texas where she was president of the San Jacinto District Union. While at college she is active in the Northport Christian Church of Newport, serving as Junior Society sponsor.

I have been active in Christian Endeavor for many years. Needless to say, the principles of Christian Endeavor, the pledge, Romans 12:1, and "For Christ and the Church" have been deeply instilled in my mind, leaving an indelible image that will never fade. These facets of Christian living on which Christian Endeavor is based are not just merely words and sentences that are easily recalled to memory, but these are my very life.

The learning process of life i forever active and Christian Endeav or is a wonderful teacher. From th four basic principles I have learne that there is more to being a Chris tian than just taking that particula name. One becomes deeply aware o dedication, sacrifices, and love an of their importance in any Chris tian's life.

Many times I have been faced wit difficult situations and decisions, ye the Christian Endeavor pledge is re in my life. Trusting in the Lor Jesus Christ for strength, I hav found an infinite security, a definit peace, and an answer to all things Christian Endeavor has taught m that through Christ I can do what ever He would have me to do, re gardless of how hard the task may b (Philippians 4:13). Trusting i Christ, I know that He will take car of me and will supply all my needs

I was walking on the beach and I wanted to run away. I heard Him and it's funny how the Lord deals with people in different ways. He puts you in a situation where you just can't get away from Him; that's what He did with me.

I was miserable. I got a letter that said, "You better make your mind up before you come back because we realize that you are going through problems and we think that the Lord is speaking to you." That was my mother. So the Lord did.

I was helping in a little village with a Christian Endeavor group, but I knew that I was kind of a liar. I was going and helping them and I didn't really know the meaning of the Christian life.

I want to thank the Lord for the principles of Christian Endeavor. First of all, the Lord Jesus Christ is the center of everything. The point is that the Lord Jesus Christ is here with the power. I am grateful for this.

Another thing is we are trying to make emphasis on the great commission "Go ye," and we train people to go and teach others, the same tactics that the Apostle Paul used. He told Timothy and Timothy told others and others told others. So that this thing will go around and around so that was the purpose.

I was trying Christian Endeavor and I was going and helping, but it was in a summer camp that I could see everything. Yet I didn't want to listen; I wanted my own life, my own profession, to go on living like everybody does.

But I praise the Lord because now there is a purpose in my life and I know that He wants to use me.

eavor Means to Me

"I beeseech ye therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service" (Romans 12:1). To present one's body a living sacrifice does not always mean actual death. I have realized that one's body is a living sacrifice in time, in talents, in money, in work, in endurance, and in studies. In every part of a Christian's life, whether spiritually, mentally, or physically, our bodies become a living sacrifice over and over again.

"For Christ and the Church" is the ultimate goal of life, for I know that this is the answer to many, many problems. What better aim could anyone have in life? The Christian Endeavor motto reminds me of Paul's words in Philippians 3:14, *"I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus."*

What has Christian Endeavor done for me? There are many things Christian Endeavor has done for me, but there is neither time nor space to enumerate all of these, for it would be endless volumes that would take a lifetime to complete. It has changed my life completely! Today I am a Christian. Today I am training for full-time Christian service to fulfill a covenant I made with Christ through Christian Endeavor. Christian Endeavor has presented millions of youth around the world with a challenge to serve Christ and millions have accepted the challenge. Truly Christian Endeavor is a dynamic and wonderful organization for Christ and His work.

"But continue in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them" (II Timothy 3:14).

NEWS

Jamaica Program Plans

Endeavorers from Area I of the World's Union will meet in Kingston August 8-11, 1968, for the fifth area conference, to be held concurrently with the 75th Diamond Jubilee Convention of the Jamaica Union.

The convention will open Thursday evening, August 8, with a mass meeting. Friday night will be Jamaica Diamond Jubilee Night, with a Jamaican speaker and special local program features. An evening of sacred music will be a special treat for delegates Saturday night. The World's Union president, Bishop Clyde W. Meadows, will speak at the closing mass rally Sunday evening.

There will be conferences each morning, divided into three sections—Juniors, Teen-agers, and Adults, with a communion service Friday morning and a Quiet Hour period on Saturday morning. During the day Thursday business meetings of the Jamaica Union and of the World's Union will be scheduled, followed by a civic reception. Friday afternoon will be free, with a special tour for all delegates on Saturday afternoon.

Convention sessions will be held at the East Queen Street Baptist Church and at the new, completely air conditioned George Lisle Christian Educational Center adjacent to the church. Meals will be served in the cafeteria. Information about home housing and other special arrangements for delegates will be released soon.

For Adults, Too

Christian Endeavor is a youth movement, but there is an important place in its graded program for adults, too. Among the helps for adults prepared by the International Society is *Young Adult and Adult Topic Summaries Series VII*, a 28-page mimeographed unit containing 52 undated summaries (enough for a whole year of meetings) and a comprehensive bibliography. Cost is 35c.

Detroit Aflame

"Detroit Aflame," which includes approximately 175 color slides and an accompanying script, gives a complete report of the International Convention last July. The presentation also includes a number of pictures of Jamaica and the Caribbean and slides of Kitchener-Waterloo, Ontario, in anticipation of the Area Conference next summer and the World's and International Conventions in 1970.

Societies and unions may schedule "Detroit Aflame" by writing to the International Society. It is available on a loan basis; the only charge is that for postage in returning the slides.

BIRTHDAY REPORTS

Photographs and reports of Christian Endeavor Week activities received by February 23 will be featured in the April issue of THE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR WORLD. Any reports which reach Columbus by February 2 may be included in the March issue. Societies and unions are urged to arrange for black and white photos to be taken of their Christian Endeavor Week events. Send these to the editor with a detailed report.

President Goes East

International Society president Elwood Dunn will participate in several Christian Endeavor Week activities in the Middle Atlantic Region. On January 25 he will speak at a Maryland Union banquet in Baltimore. On Christian Endeavor's birthday, February 2, he will be the featured speaker at the anniversary banquet of the Golden Rule Union. He then journeys to New Jersey to speak at the Cam-Glo Union banquet Saturday night in Collingswood.

On Christian Endeavor day, February 4, Mr. Dunn is scheduled for several events in the Philadelphia area. He will preach at the morning service at Olney Presbyterian Church and will speak in the evening to the Christian Endeavorers of Grace Chapel Reformed Episcopal Church and at the evening service of Leverington Presbyterian Church.

Messengers of God

Christian Endeavorers of the National Presbyterian Church of Tuxtla Gutierrez have named their group the "Messengers of God." One of the most active societies in all of Chiapas, Mexico, the members assume many local church responsibilities, including visitation. As a special project they conducted a worship service for the San Fernando congregation located in the mountains about eight miles away.

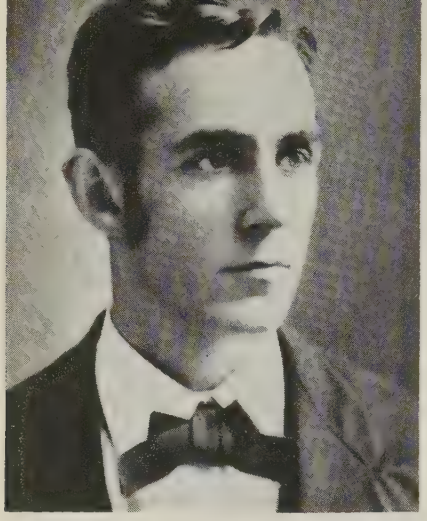
C. J. Rempel Heads Canadian Convention Committee

Named to head the Canadian Convention Committee, which is making plans to host the 16th World's Convention in 1970, is C. J. Rempel of Kitchener, Ontario. The 50th International Convention will be held concurrently with the World's Convention in Kitchener-Waterloo August 19-23, 1970.

Mr. Rempel is the assistant manager of the estates department at the Waterloo Trust and Savings Company. He is also a deacon of the Ottawa Street Mennonite Brethren Church. He served as secretary of the arrangements committee for the Mennonite world conference in Kitchener in 1962 and vice-chairman of the 1966 Leighton Ford crusade.

Mr. Rempel is secretary for the Mennonite Central Committee of Canada and is a member of the Board of Missions and Services for the Mennonite Brethren Conference of North America. The bilingual Mr. Rempel sings with the Sacred Song Quartet of Kitchener which toured Europe in 1965.

The committee is now organizing and recruiting subcommittee chairmen. The next meeting is scheduled for March 25.



The young Francis E. Clark

A Message from the Founder

From Dr. Francis E. Clark's address at the World's Christian Endeavor Convention in London, in July, 1900, after his third Christian Endeavor journey around the world.

The farther I travel, the more I see of societies in every land, the more I am convinced that these four principles are the essential and the only essential principles of the Christian Endeavor society. Let me repeat them:

Confession of Christ

Service for Christ

Fellowship with Christ's people

Loyalty to Christ's Church

With these roots the Christian Endeavor tree will bear fruit in any soil. Cut away any of these roots in any clime, and the tree dies.

Confession, Service, Fellowship, Fidelity.

Confession of our love for Christ.

Proof of it by our service for Him.

Fellowship with those who love Him.

Fidelity to our regiment in which we fight for Him.

These principles make necessary the pledge and consecration meetings; they justify the systematic work of the committees; they explain our unexampled conventions; they reveal the reasons of the rapid growth of Christian Endeavor in all the world. To secure constant confession the binding force of the covenant pledge is needed, and the monthly roll call cannot be dispensed with; to insure constant service the regularly apportioned work of the committees is essential; to give voice to our fellowship our conventions and various meetings are inevitable. Our loyalty fidelity regulates and guards the whole organization.

But these principles are not for the worldwide movement alone. Your society, my fellow Endeavorer, needs them all. The same principle of gravitation applies to the thistledown fluttering to the earth and the planet whirling through space. Your local society cannot grow strong and healthy and fulfill its God-given mission unless it stands four-square for confession and service, fellowship and loyalty. Come nearer home and take the truth to your own heart. You cannot be a worthy Endeavorer unless you confess Christ, work for Christ, love Christ's people, and uphold Christ's church.

Marines or Missionaries?

An editorial by Rev. Fred J. Nile. Reprinted from THE AUSTRALIAN ENDEAVORER.

"Marines or Missionaries?" An examination of modern missionary manpower with the mobilization of manpower for modern warfare presents some startling comparisons.

— At present there are 43,000 Protestant missionaries of all denominations serving throughout the world, about 27,000 from U.S.A. and 1,700 from Australia.

— Today over 500,000 U. S. A. and 5,000 Australian soldiers are serving in Vietnam with the possibility of large increases in the future. A large proportion of these are draftees or "National Servicemen."

These statistics raise some interesting questions.

* If thousands of young men had served as missionaries in areas such as Southeast Asia, would it have prevented the present terrible bloodshed in Vietnam? The answer appears to be negative when the experience of missionaries in China is taken into account. The efforts of dozens of missionary organizations working in China for almost one hundred years failed to prevent exploitation, bloodshed, or the victory of Communism.

* Is it sufficient for missionaries in underdeveloped countries to be only concerned with the individual and the so-called "pie in the sky" philosophy of life or should they be concerned about renewing the structures of society along Christian lines?

The World Council of Churches sponsored conference on church and society in Geneva in August 1966 suggested that the church's main role in the world is to renew structures of society rather than to "save souls."

"Has the church a right to close its eyes on massive human suffering? . . . One-half billion persons suffer crippling hunger today. A billion more are undernourished. . . . To call for justice for the poor is a Christian task."

Lewis I. Maddocks, Washington secretary of the Council of Christian Social Action of the United Church of Christ, agrees with this policy of social action. "In order to appreciate the Christian's responsibility in political action, we need merely to recognize that Christianity is concerned with the welfare of people and that politics in a democracy is based on government by consent of the people; therefore, Christianity, and thus the Christian, must be concerned with politics."

The other point of view is summed up by Clyde W. Taylor, general secretary of the National Association of Evangelicals. "The church's prophetic and evangelistic voice must not lose its spiritual authority by speaking on every other matter, which it is neither competent nor authorized to do."

Both points of view are valid. Modern missionaries need to be concerned about "saving souls" and renewing society.

The need is tremendous for all types of missionaries. Not only the old-fashioned type, but one who can work as a member of a team with the young national church, whether it be Vietnam or New Guinea; one who is prepared to serve in various capacities, perhaps as a lifetime missionary but more likely a short-term missionary.

Will young men respond to the call of God? Will the church give adequate support in terms of prayer, finance, and equipment so that these young men can perform a worthwhile service for Christ and a needy world? What is our reply?

Mobilization . . Dedication

Mobilization means dedicated Christians giving as individuals through annual memberships or as groups through the Roll Call for the support of Christian Endeavor International. Here are some personal comments received with recent gifts.

A long-time New York State Endeavorer: "Thank you for including me in this great work. My life has been helped so much for being an Endeavorer. My first International Convention 1910 at Atlantic City will never be forgotten."

A young Michigan lad: "I was fortunate enough to attend this year's International Convention in Detroit, and was blessed and inspired for having been there. If this money can help Christian Endeavor to continue its work, to organize more conventions like the one in Detroit, to win more young people to Jesus Christ, then it wil certainly have been put to good use."

A Junior Christian Endeavor sponsor i Pennsylvania: "The boys and girls wish t send this contribution. They are only seve to nine years old, but are grateful fo your share in teaching God's Word t them."

February 29 is the goal for comple tion of the major thrust of the 196 Mobilization. Send memberships an gifts to the International Societ now.

Want to Organize a Society?

The International Society is happy to provide Organizing Kits for group of all ages. These are available without charge to those desiring informatio and helps. Each kit contains the basic materials needed to begin a new grou Use the handy form below.

International Society of Christian Endeavor
1221 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43216

Please send me a kit to help organize a Christian Endeavor society fo the following age(s):

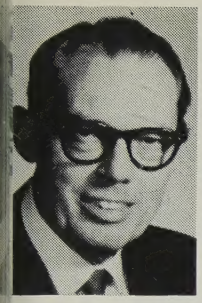
- ☐ Primary (6-8)
- ☐ Junior (9-11)
- ☐ Junior High (12-14)
- ☐ Senior High and Young People (15-24)
- ☐ Young Adult and Adult (25 up)
- ☐ Combination (materials for all ages)

Name_____

Address_____

City, State, and ZIP Code_____

Church_____



AS I SEE IT

Looking Across The President's Desk

By ELWOOD DUNN

The minister stood up to make announcements. I sat with other teenage young people in the morning church service. They were the usual things. Then, "Next Sunday evening at 6:30 there will be the first meeting of a Christian Endeavor Society. All of the young people are invited to be present. Mrs. Charles Rhoades will be the sponsor of the group."

About a dozen of us were there. The sponsor explained just what Christian Endeavor was all about. We would meet each Sunday evening. We would take turns leading the meeting, reading the Scripture, and having prayer. There would be parties, picnics, hikes, and other activities. Did we want to have a society? DID WE? We did!! So was started the Christian Endeavor Society in Converse Church of Christ, Converse, Indiana. I was a charter member of the society.

Beginnings

It was there I uttered my first public prayer. It was there in the choir loft, for it was there that we assembled, that I made my first talk. There I first stood before a group and made a speech. But it was the beginning.

Next Step

There was a special program scheduled for the entire church. The minister, R. S. Grubb (who is still preaching occasionally) said to me, "Would you make the talk explaining what the offering is for on next Sunday morning." I said, "Yes." And I did. My first speech before a large group came out of that Christian Endeavor experience; many more appearances followed at various times. Each had its roots in the Christian Endeavor training.

The Pledge

Not very long after the society was formed the sponsor showed us two pledge forms, an associate pledge and an active one. She explained their meaning and importance. I carried the pledge around in my pocket for about three weeks before signing it. It was a serious decision and one I still keep.

Then

Most of the boys in the society were also in the Scout Troop. A former minister (the late W. C. Aschanhort) kept track of the boys. Years later we were together and he told me that all of the boys of that first group save one were either preaching or were holding an office in the church or Sunday school where they were then attending. This is Christian Endeavor in action. Successful action!

Won't you help start some more societies that produce leaders like this?

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